

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/695,917

Examiner

Chanh Nguyen

Applicant(s)

MIYASHITA, MAMORU

Art Unit

2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview on January 24, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 4-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 01/24/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Catherine Voisinnet on January 24, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Current Amended) A liquid crystal display device having a case internally accommodating a liquid crystal display panel which display an image represented by an applied image signal, said liquid crystal display panel having a display screen exposed externally of the case, said case being formed to include a freely openable and closable light admission window for admitting outside light, and a light guide path being formed for introducing the outside light, which has been admitted by opening said light-admission window, to the back side of said liquid crystal display panel, said liquid crystal display device comprising:

a backlight device for projecting backlight toward the back side of said liquid crystal display panel;

a setting unit for setting whether to admit outside light from said light-admission window or to project backlight from said backlighting device;

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a signal correction circuit for subjecting the applied image signal for subjecting the applied image signal to at least one correction selected from the group consisting of a gamma correction, luminance correction, contour correction, hue correction, and color saturation correction to compensate for incident external light directly on the front surface of the liquid crystal display panel for outdoor display in response to a setting by said setting unit for admission of the outside light without projecting back light; and

a back light control circuit for turning on said backlight device in response to a setting by said setting unit for projection of the backlight;

an output circuit for making a connection to an external display unit that displays the image represented by the applied image signal and that is removably attached to the liquid crystal display device; and

an output-circuit control unit for turning said output circuit off in response to a setting by said setting unit for admission of outside light.

2. -3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device having a case internally accommodating a liquid crystal display panel which display an image represented by an applied image signal, said liquid crystal display panel having a display screen exposed externally of the case, said case being formed to include a freely openable and closable light admission window for admitting outside light, and a light guide path being formed for introducing the outside light, which has been admitted by opening said

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light-admission window, to the underside of said liquid crystal display panel, and a backlight device for projecting backlight toward the underside of said liquid crystal display panel, a method comprising the steps of:

making it possible to set whether to admit outside light from said light-admission window or to project backlight from said backlighting device;

subjecting the applied image signal to at least one correction selected from the group consisting of a gamma correction, luminance correction, contour correction, hue correction, and color saturation correction to compensate for incident external light directly on the front surface of the liquid crystal display panel for outdoor display in response to a setting for admission of the outside light without projecting back light; and

turning on said backlight device in response to a setting for projection of the backlight;

making a connection an output circuit to an external display unit that displays the image represented by the applied image signal and that is removably attached to the liquid crystal display device; and

turning said output-circuit off by an output-circuit control unit in response to the setting by a setting unit for admission of outside light.

Inquiries

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-6603. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



C. Nguyen
February 4, 2004



Chanh Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2675